IN THE CLAIMS

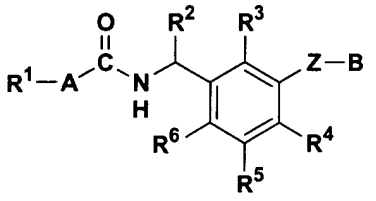
Claims 1-4, 6-8 remain in this application. Claims 2 and 6 are amended. Claim 5 has been canceled.

Please amend Claim 2 as follows: delete line 5, "A is –CH=CH- or $-(CH_2)_n-$; ".

Please cancel Claim 5.

Please amend Claim 6 as follows: A method for the treatment of disorders responsive to opening of the KCNQ potassium channels in a mammal in need thereof, wherein said disorders are acute and chronic pain, migraine, neuropathic pain, bipolar disorders, convulsions, mania, epilepsy, anxiety, depression and neurodegenerative disorders, which comprises administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1.

1. (Original) A compound of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



I

wherein

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of pyridinyl, 3-quinolinyl, thienyl, furanyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with substituent independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy and nitro;

A is –CH=CH- or $-(CH_2)_n-$;

R^2 is C_{1-4} alkyl, CF_3 or hydroxymethyl;

R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 each are independently hydrogen or fluoro;

Z is oxygen or $-NR^7(CH_2)_m-$;

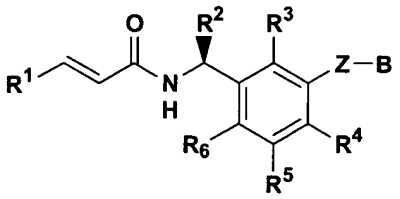
n is an integer of 0, 1, 2 or 3;

m is an integer of 0 or 1;

R^7 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl; and

B is pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrazinyl optionally substituted with a subsituent selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, C_{1-4} alkoxy and trifluoromethyl.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1 having the Formula Ic or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



Ic

wherein

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of pyridinyl, 3-quinolinyl, thienyl, furanyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with substituent independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy and nitro;

~~A is –CH=CH– or $-(CH_2)_n-$;~~

R^2 is methyl or hydroxymethyl;

R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^6 each are independently hydrogen or fluoro;

Z is oxygen or $-NR^7(CH_2)_m-$;

n is an integer of 0, 1, 2 or 3;

m is an integer of 0 or 1;

R^7 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl; and

B is pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl or pyrazinyl optionally substituted with a subsituent selected from the group consisting of C_{1-4} alkyl, halogen, C_{1-4} alkoxy and trifluoromethyl.

3. (Original) The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

(*S*)-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(3,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide

(*S*)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;

(*S*)-3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(6-methyl-pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(6-methyl-pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)- 3-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(6-methyl-pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-N-{1-[3-(6-methyl-pyridin-3-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-3-(2,4,5-trifluoro-phenyl)-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(3,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-propionamide;
(*S*)-3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyridin-4-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-propionamide;
(*S*)-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrazin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrazin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrazin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrazin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrazin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrazin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(3,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrazin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrimidin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrimidin-2-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrimidin-5-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrimidin-5-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrimidin-5-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(pyrimidin-5-yloxy)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;
(*S*)-N-[1-(3-benzylamino-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-acrylamide;
(*S*)-N-[1-(3-benzylamino-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-phenyl-acrylamide;

(*S*)-N-[1-(3-benzylamino-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-acrylamide; and
(*S*)-N-[1-(3-benzylamino-phenyl)-ethyl]-3-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-acrylamide;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of disorders responsive to opening of KCNQ potassium channels comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or diluent.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of disorders responsive to opening of the KCNQ potassium channels in a mammal in need thereof, wherein said disorders are acute and chronic pain, migraine, neuropathic pain, bipolar disorders, convulsions, mania, epilepsy, anxiety, depression and neurodegenerative disorders, which comprises administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said disorder is migraine.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said disorder is neuropathic pain.